for Street Children with the combined efforts of State Govt., Municipal Corporations and Voluntary Organisations. The programme will be funded by UNICEF and is proposed to be implemented in six metropolitan cities, viz. Delhi, Bombay, Calcutta, Madras, Bangalore and Hyderabad where the concentration of such category of children is large. The components of the programme includes nutritions nonformal education, health services vocational training with a view to rehabilitate them in society.

Saraswati Vidya Mandir

1696. SHRI N. E. BALARAM: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Madhya Pradesh Government has taken a decision to give Saraswati Vidya Mandir run by RSS, the status of a regular secondary school and a Board has been constituted for the purpose;

(b) if so, whether the syllabus of this school is the same as that of other schools in the country; and

(c) if not, what steps are proposed to be taken by Government to make a uniform syllabus for all schools in the country?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE) (KUMARI SELJA): (a) The State Government of Madhya Pradesh has informed that it has not granted the status of a regular secondary board to Vidya Bharati, Madhya Pradesh, a registered educational body managing the Saraswati Shishu Mandir Schools in the State. The State Government has permitted Vidya Bharati, Madhya Pradesh to constitute a state level board for holding public examinations of 5th and 8th standard in schools run by it (Vidya Bharati).

(b) The State Government has informed that no relaxation has been given to schools run by Vidya Bharati Madhya Pradesh in respect of syllabus and textbooks and it will remain the same as prescribed by the State Government for all elementary schools of the State.

(c) Based on the National Curricular Framework, the syllabi and textbooks brought out by NCERT, the State Governments and Union Territories undertake measures of curiculum renewal and development of new textbooks for different stages of school education.

Sahitya Academi award

1697. SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN: MISS SAROJ KHAPARDE:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the newsitem entitled "An Asonishing Decision" which appeared in the Hindustan Times dated 21st June, 1992 to the effect that the Sahitya Academi award for 1991 for Punjabi language was given to such a writer who has expressed anti-national sentiments in his prize-winning book "Jhanan di Raat";

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard; and

(c) what corrective steps Government have taken|propose to take in the matter?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE (KUMARI SELJA):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Award was declared by the Executive Board of the Sahitya Akademi on the recommendation of Dr. Amrik Singh, Smt. Amrita Pritam and Shri J. S. Ahluwalia, the